JOURNAL REVIEW

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This 36th volume of Annual Review of Environment and Resources focuses on emerging scientific and policy issues at the interface of environment, resource management, and development. This volume contains a series of papers that review scientific, policy, technological, and methodological issues related to global life support systems, the human use of environment and resources, and the management and governance of resources and environment. The review papers are aimed to provide scholars, practitioners, and policy makers with a fundamental and critical analysis of the most urgent and integrative issues and controversies in the environment and resource arena. The volume builds upon previous volumes in the series by providing updates on key areas of research and by highlighting new issues of interests and importance.

This volume is divided into three sections: 1) "Earth's Life Support Systems," 2) "Human Use of Environment and Resources," and 3) "Management, Guidance, and Governance of Resources and Environment." The first section focuses on changes in the earth system and includes papers on weather, changing climates, the role of the ocean in future commitments to climate change, and the impacts of atmospheric aerosols on climate and biogeochemistry. Also included in this section is a review on how and why freshwater ecosystems have become the most intensely altered of any ecosystems.

The second section looks at the patterns, drivers, and consequences of human uses of natural resources and interactions with the environment. This section contains several reviews related to energy (e.g., policy and technology for managing the impacts of coal energy productions; the link between water used to produce energy and energy used to treat and transport water), and other papers examine mechanisms to combat and remediate land degradation and the development of green chemistry and its applications. These papers contribute to our understanding of energy, water, agriculture, and human behavior and identify important future research agendas.

The third section explores environmental governance and policy. These papers look at policy efforts to end deforestation, the relationship of tourism, religion, and literature to the environment, and the links between human development, disasters, well-being, and resilience.

The papers that make up this review volume contend with the challenges and conflicts inherent in meeting people's needs while protecting natural resources and the environment. The volume aims to foster communication among various disciplines active in research, as well as informing managers, policy makers, and the public who rely on such information to assist decision making. I would recommend this volume to students and professionals who work in integrated resource management.—Kevin Janni, Botanist, SWCA Environmental Consultants, and Research Associate, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas, U.S.A.